

REMARKS

Claims remaining in the present patent application are numbered 20-24 and 47-54. Claims 55-57 have been canceled.

The rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated June 4, 2004 have been carefully considered by the Applicants.

Acceptance of Allowed Claims

Claims 20-24 and 47-54 are allowed. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 20-24 and 47-54 as allowable subject matter. Applicants herein accept the allowance of Claims 20-24 and 47-54.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The present Office Action rejected Claims 55-57 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chakvorty et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,894,188) and further in view of Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,265,822). Applicants have herein canceled claims 55-57 rendering the arguments for a §103 rejection moot at this time.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above-listed remarks presented herein, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 20-24 and 47-54 of the present Application.

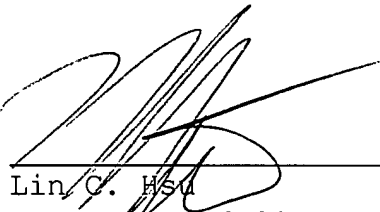
Applicants further respectfully point out that no contested Claims remain in the present Application.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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